



**SOUHEGAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING
AREA COMMITTEE**

NH Rivers Management and Protection Program
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
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**Souhegan Water Management Planning Area Committee Meeting
April 23, 2004
Milford Town Hall
Auditorium
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

Members Present:

Spencer C. Brookes II
Peter de Bruyn Kops, Vice Chair
Jay Chrystal
Diane Fitzpatrick
F. Vincent Gerbino
George May
Thomas Neforas
Timothy O'Connell
Angela Rapp
Nancy Rose Redling
Pierce Rigrod, Chair
William F. Ruoff
Robin Warren

Members Absent:

Pierre W. Bruno
Stephen J. Densberger
Nelson Disco
Gordon Leddy
Lawrence Major
Senator Andrew R. Peterson

Others Present:

Rep Richard T. Cooney

DES Staff Present – Watershed Management Bureau:

Steve Couture, Rivers Coordinator
Paul Currier, Administrator
Wayne Ives, Instream Flow Specialist
Marie Loskamp, Executive Secretary

The Chair, Pierce Rigrod opened the meeting.

I. Introductions and Certification of Members

Adoption of Minutes – Nancy Redling made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2004 meeting. Pierce recommended that from this point forward the minutes not be verbatim and that they be very condensed. There were no major objections to the March 5th minutes and they were accepted as written. Pierce's recommendation for future meeting minutes was also approved.

II. Contractor Selection Process

Wayne Ives gave a quick review on the process to date. The RFP has gone out to the short listed firms. On Monday the Selection Committee and consultants will have private

interviews, and the final decision will be rapidly made. A G&C will then be drafted requesting hiring the selected contractor. Once G&C approval is obtained, the contractor can begin work.

The Committee's Responsibility:

- Identify IPUOCRs (Instream, Public Uses, Outstanding Characteristics and Resources)
- Provide this information to contractor through the Department
- Refer to web site for updates for this committee and to see handouts, such as the Request for Proposals and other documents relevant to the protected instream flow study.

The contractor will be on board in the next couple of months. And will first conduct research, then field confirmation and prepare findings. The Committee will review the contractor's findings to verify that the IPUOCR list is inclusive.

Speakers: **Diane Fitzpatrick**, Chair Milford Conservation Commission – One of the public uses is recreation – look at recreation uses, shoreland recreation. Diane walked most of the river and places that people are using that are not in the documentation. If we are missing anything, she will comment on it.

Spenser C. Brookes - put his ideas down, he started at Wilton town line and followed the river down.

Are golf courses a protected use, built on riparian land, question of how we are going to categorize them. Under recreation uses – are golf courses on edge of stream same as stream side trails? The consultant is there to determine instream protected flow. Is there a flow requirement for that protected use to be maintained. If not needing stream flow in order to exist, it may not be.

At this point include all and determine later. The end result is to make the decision as to how the available water is being used. Some water has to stay to protect certain entities and some can be used by riparian owners, and once you have all that then added up how is it divided up? This is the subject of the Water Management Plan.

George May – spoke regarding recreational interests along the river. The river is pretty much canoed the whole way down. Everything is tied together, canoeing, several accesses, some swim areas, and all along the river, fishing is important (trout and salmon).

Fish habitat – Fish Hatcheries – Information came from F&G including types of fisheries, neither warm water nor cold water, trout occurs in certain spots, certain areas used for fishing, need to identify specific habitat, places people go to fish.

Conservation areas – Identify areas along designated reach.

State Parks are open space in terms of not being used.

Farm Land are not counted as open space.

What is important is that we are trying to figure out flow dependent resources along the river. It is not necessary to have flow needs on this IPUOCR list.

Designation includes instream corridor of ¼ mile on either side of it and in the corridor. Activities that people do along the river, for example a bridge across the river for walking. Flows would matter to historical or archeological sites; think about changing archeological sites, (mills) and flows that are too flashy or too high; sites of community; loitering areas (places that people like to go and just hang around); standard and rare species. esthetic beauty water falls (Horseshoe Falls); flow dependent situations (long term not temporarily); and environmental or scientific activities.

Identification of IPUOCRs through imagery or reports agricultural farms actually working if I missed locations we should include them, scientific resource, superfund site should be included. We have collected lots of data. The statute is not very descriptive. Geology and hydrology play a big role.

Suggestion: A set of enlarged maps, talk on line as to what ones we need, that we can write on, maps will be available (hanging in Conservation Office), anything made available electronically that comes in electronic format will be passed on electronically by making a pdf of the file and handed off to consultant. This needs to be done soon, within a month or two so contractor has a little flex time. Always chance of input at end point but better if it can be put in at the front end.

III. Other Business

Next Meeting: Will be addressing product, identifying IPUOCRs and your task will be to go over these IPUOCRs and concur or not. No fixed date a meeting sometime in July or August and on a Friday afternoon.

- **A review of work product - a joint meeting with the WMPAAC and TRC to review.**

Wayne Ives handed out information on the **Right-To-Know Law** and how it affects the committee.

- **A motion was made by Brian that any requests for information be made in writing to the committee itself. The motion was seconded by Diane Fitzpatrick, motion passed unanimously.**
- **Pierce asked for a motion to adjourn, Angela seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm.**

Adjourned: 3:31 PM